

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application, claims 6-15 and 21-24 having been withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3 and 16 are amended. Support for the amendment to claims 1, 3 and 16 can be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 2, line 10 – page 3, line 4; page 5, lines 9-15; page 9, line 30 – page 10, line 22; and in claims 1, 3 and 16 as originally filed. Also by this Amendment, the Title and Abstract are amended. Support for the amendments to the Title and Abstract can be found in the Title and Abstract as originally filed. Thus, no new matter is added.

**I.      Objections to the Specification**

**A.      Objections to the Abstract**

The Office Action objects to the Abstract as allegedly containing language which may be implied. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the objection, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the Abstract herein overcome the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**B.      Objections to the Title**

The Office Action objects to the Title, and requires a new Title that clearly indicates the subject matter to which the claims are directed. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the objection, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the Title herein overcome the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**II.     Objections to the Claims**

The Office Action objects to claim 3 as being of improper dependent form for allegedly failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the objection, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments

to claim 3 overcome the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112**

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1 and 16, and their respective dependent claims, clearly set forth the subject matter of the invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

**IV. Allowable Subject Matter**

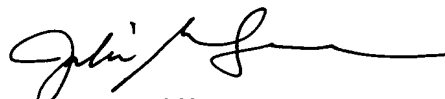
Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1 and 16, and their dependent claims 2, 4, 5 and 17-20, would be allowable if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is overcome. Because the rejection is overcome for the reasons described above, claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 16-20 are in condition for allowance.

**V. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:  
Abstract

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